

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for detecting a binding complex comprising a binding factor, for a probe the method comprising:
 - (a) contacting a sample comprising a binding factor with a labeling the probe with comprising a fluorophore, wherein the probe specifically binds to the binding factor forming a binding complex;
 - (b) incubating the labeled probe with a factor or a group of factors which may bind the labeled probe to form a binding complex;
 - (~~b~~ e) separating the binding complex and the free from unbound probe by electrokinetic chromatography into different fractions; and
 - (~~c~~ d) concurrent with, or subsequent to, part b):
 - (i) determining the laser-induced fluorescence polarization of the binding complex;
 - (ii) determining the laser-induced fluorescence polarization of the unbound probe; and
 - (iii) comparing the result obtained in (i) with the result obtained in (ii),subjecting each fraction from step (e) to fluorescence polarization measurement under conditions wherein the binding complex exhibits increased polarization in comparison to unbound probe produces a fluorescence pattern different from that of the free probe, thereby allowing detection of the binding complex.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~free probe and the complex are separated~~ electrokinetic chromatography is by using capillary electrophoresis.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~[[3]]~~ wherein the sample group of factor comprises a chemical compound library.
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3 ~~[[4]]~~ wherein the chemical compound library is a combinatorial library.

Claims 5-10. (Canceled)

11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the probe is selected from the group consisting of protein and nucleic acid.
12. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the probe has a molecular weight of less than about 10,000 daltons.

Claims 13-15. (Canceled)

16. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the fluorophore is fluorescein.

Claims 17-23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended) A method for determining the binding affinity and/or stoichiometry of a binding complex between a binding factor and a probe, comprising:
 - (a) contacting a sample comprising a binding factor with a labeling the probe with comprising a fluorophore, wherein the probe specifically binds to the binding factor forming a binding complex;
 - (b) ~~incubating the labeled probe with a factor or a group of factors which may bind the labeled probe to form a binding complex;~~
 - (b e) separating the binding complex and the free from unbound probe by electrokinetic chromatography and measuring the electrophoretic mobility of the complex into different fractions; and
 - (c d) concurrent with, or subsequent to, part b):

- (i) determining the laser-induced fluorescence polarization of the binding complex;
 - (ii) determining the laser-induced fluorescence polarization of the unbound probe; and
 - (iii) comparing the result obtained in (i) with the result obtained in (ii).
- ~~(d)~~ ~~subjecting each fraction from step (c) to fluorescence polarization measurement under conditions wherein the binding complex exhibits increased polarization in comparison to unbound probe produces a fluorescence pattern different from that of the free probe, thereby allowing detection of the binding complex; and~~
- (d e) determining binding affinity and/or stoichiometry between the probe and the binding factor.